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SECURITY INFORMATION

THE STRUGGLE FOR POWER IN EGYPT

I. Proclamation of Republic Result of Power Struggle:

- A. Republic proclaimed on 18 June.
- B. Strengthened position of Colonel Nasr, decline of General Nagib.
- C. Proclamation precipitated by internal struggle within Revolutionary Command Council especially tense in ten days preceeding 18 June.

II. Position of Nasr:

- A. Role within Revolutionary Command Council -- actual leader --
35-years-old, strongly nationalistic -- quiet but dynamic.
- B. Present position as result of cabinet changes -- vice premier and minister of interior.
- C. Three close supporters occupy key positions --
Major Salah Salam -- early thirties -- minister of national guidance and Sudanese affairs.
Wing Commander Abdul Baghdadi -- 35-years-old -- minister of war and marine.
Major Hakim Amir -- 33-years-old -- commander in chief of the Egyptian armed forces.
- D. Future intentions -- Plans to become premier in two months.
Also wants to be named vice-president.

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III. Position of Nagib:

- A. Original position. Selected to lead junior officers in movement against army corruption.
- B. Present position. Premier and president with considerable popular following.
- C. Future role -- uncertain. Figurehead or struggle with Nasr. Widespread dissatisfaction in army over top positions assigned to Nasr supporters may indicate future trouble.

IV. Implications for the Future:

A. Domestic problems:

- 1. Interference of young and inexperienced officers will now increase.
- 2. Problem of administrative efficiency likewise increased.
- 3. Great need for experienced guidance in economic field.
No indication that it will be forthcoming.

B. Anglo-Egyptian relations:

- 1. Salam, young, headstrong officer, appointed minister of Sudanese affairs.
- 2. Probable increased Egyptian activity in the Sudan.
- 3. Nasr group represents faction opposed to negotiated settlement of canal question.